

FROM THE REGISTRAR'S DESK



WHAT'S IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

- Welcome Message
- E&T Activities
- Pharmacy Practice activities and more

WELCOME MESSAGE

On behalf of the management and staff of the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria, I extend warm wishes to all professionals in the Nigerian pharmaceutical sector for a joyful new month and a happy Workers' Day. Today, we recognize and appreciate the commitment, diligence, and invaluable contributions of workers across all fields toward the growth and advancement of our society.



To the dedicated management and staff of PCN across all our offices nationwide, as well as our valued stakeholders and partners, I sincerely appreciate your efforts and the role you continue to play in advancing the pharmaceutical landscape of our beloved country. May God bless our endeavors and grant us continued success. Amen.

I pray that our hard work yields meaningful results, and that in due time we will all enjoy the full rewards of our labour in good health and strength

Month under review



The Vice Chancellor, Delta State University, Abraka, Prof. Samuel O. Asogba (middle) with the PCN Accreditation Team members led by Prof. Ibrahim M. Sule (left) during a courtesy call on the Vice Chancellor.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Accreditation and Advisory Visits

Accreditation Visit — Delta State University, Abraka.

The PCN team conducted an accreditation visit to the Delta State University, Abraka, Delta State, from 8 – 11 April 2026. The visit was undertaken for the purpose of Resource Verification for the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) programme and the accreditation of the Bachelor of Pharmacy (B.Pharm.) degree programme.

Advisory Visit — Plateau State University, Bokokos

An advisory visit was also paid by the PCN team to the Plateau State University, Bokokos, Plateau State, from 2 – 5 April 2026.



The PCN Advisory Team to Plateau State University, Bokokos led by Prof. Olayinka Busayo of ABU, Zaria in a group photograph with the Vice-Chancellor, PLASU, Prof. Shedrack G. Best (middle) and Management staff of the University during a courtesy call on the VC.

INDUCTION

Induction of Pharmacy Graduands

A total of Two Hundred and Fifteen (215) fresh pharmacy graduands were inducted into the profession in the month of April 2026, drawn from the following universities: Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto, Sokoto State (102); Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Igbariam, Anambra State (52); University of Maiduguri, Maiduguri, Borno State (61). The PCN warmly congratulates all 215 newly inducted pharmacists and welcomes them into a noble and life-changing profession.



Month under review

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Orientation Programme (FPGOP)

The eligibility interview for the First Cycle 2026 Foreign Pharmacy Graduate Orientation Programme (FPGOP) was successfully conducted from 12 – 15 April 2026. Out of one hundred and three (103) candidates interviewed, twenty-six (26) candidates were dropped from participation in the FPGOP due to poor performance.

Note that the six (6)-week FPGOP is currently ongoing at the two (2) PCN-designated centres:

·Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto, Sokoto State (North)

·Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Lagos, Idi-Araba, Lagos State (South)



ENFORCEMENT EXERCISE

The PCN National Enforcement Team conducted enforcement exercises across Kaduna, and Kano States in the month of April 2026.

Kaduna State (13 – 17 April):

·Total number of premises visited: 828 (123 Pharmacies, 631 Patent Medicine Shops [PMS], 74 Illegal Patent Medicine Stores)

·Total number of premises sealed: 598 (68 Pharmacies, 456 PMSs, 74 Illegal PMSs)

·Total number of compliance directives issued: 7 (3 Pharmacies and 4 PMSs).

·Total number of inventories taken from premises: 61

·Total number of Arrests: 2

A significant number of premises in Kaduna State showed commitment to take the right steps by making concerted efforts to renew their licences and undertake necessary actions towards ethical practice.



Month under review



Kano State (27 - 30 April 2026):

* Total number of premises visited: 1,140 (114 Pharmacies, 869 Patent Medicine Shops [PMS], 166 Illegal Outlets)

* Total number of premises sealed: 821 (68 Pharmacies, 587 PMSs, 166 Illegal PMSs)

* Total number of compliance directives issued: 10

* Total number of Arrests: 1

PHARMACY PRACTICE

Partnership Engagement — IntraHub Africa

The PCN held a meeting with IntraHub Africa on 2 April 2026 to explore potential partnerships aimed at advancing pharmacovigilance education in Nigeria.

During the meeting, IntraHub Africa highlighted its work in drug safety monitoring and presented its proposed training module designed to build the capacity of pharmacists in pharmacovigilance practice. The Council, on its part, emphasised its statutory role in regulating pharmacy education and the importance of maintaining quality standards in Continuous Professional Development (CPD) for pharmacists.

Both parties identified key areas of alignment and agreed to further explore collaboration towards strengthening pharmacovigilance systems and improving public health outcomes in Nigeria.



Month under review



MCPD Cycle 6

In line with the mandate of the Council to promote excellence in pharmacy education through Continuing Professional Development (CPD), Cycle 6 of the Mandatory Continuing Professional Development (MCPD) programme comprising Modules XVI, XVII, and VIII was recently launched. Consequently, Gombe study center conducted the programme from 20 – 24 April 2026 where one hundred and twenty-three (123) pharmacists participated in the programme.

Hospital Pharmacy Inspection

/Accreditation Visits

The PCN constituted an inspection team to conduct inspection/accreditation visits to the various hospital pharmacies in various states as part of its mandate to ensure that the minimum standards for hospital pharmacy practice for the assurance of pharmaceutical care are met by benchmarking PCN standards and requirements.

These exercises took place as follows:

- Benue State: 13 – 17 April 2026
- Ondo and Osun States: 27 – 30 April 2026



Month under review

PROGRAMMES COORDINATING DEPARTMENT

Malaria Case Management — Collaboration with the National Malaria Elimination Programme

The PCN, in collaboration with the National Malaria Elimination Programme, implemented a series of activities in April 2026 aimed at strengthening malaria case management and improving the quality of care within the private sector. These activities included:

- **Step-Down Training for Community Pharmacists and PPMVs**

The Council participated in a two-day step-down training for Community Pharmacists (CPs) and Patent and Proprietary Medicine Vendors (PPMVs) across Katsina, Osun, and Niger States, held from 2 – 8 April 2026. The training focused on improving malaria care services at the community level through the test, treat, and track approach, as well as strengthening the identification and referral of suspected tuberculosis cases.

- **Engagement Meeting with the National Malaria Elimination Programme**

An engagement meeting was held on 23 April 2026 in Abuja with the National Malaria Elimination Programme to discuss the implementation of the malaria private sector case management project. Deliberations centred on improving the quality of malaria care among CPs and PPMVs across thirteen (13) states, building on the successes recorded from the pilot phase.

- **First Quarter Monitoring and Supportive Supervision — Kwara State**

Furthermore, the Council participated in the first quarter monitoring and supportive supervision exercise conducted from 20 – 24 April 2026 in Kwara State. The exercise focused on assessing service delivery practices, ensuring adherence to regulatory and national malaria treatment guidelines, and providing on-site support to enhance the consistency and quality of care delivered by CPs and PPMVs under the private sector pilot project.



Month under review

PROGRAMMES COORDINATING DEPARTMENT

Co-Creation Workshop on Private Sector HIV Prevention and Treatment Service Delivery

The PCN participated in a two-day Co-Creation Workshop on Private Sector HIV Prevention and Treatment Service Delivery, organised by the National AIDS, Viral Hepatitis and STIs Control Programme (NASCP) in collaboration with Maisha Meds. The workshop was held at K-Class Hotel, Abuja, on 28 – 29 April 2026.

The workshop focused on leveraging digital solutions to strengthen Pharmacy-Based Differentiated Service Delivery (DSD) and Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) services in Nigeria. It was aimed at co-creating and finalising a nationally aligned implementation approach, initiating PrEP services, and scaling Anti-Retroviral (ART) refill through Community Pharmacies.

INSPECTION, MONITORING, AND QUALITY ASSURANCE

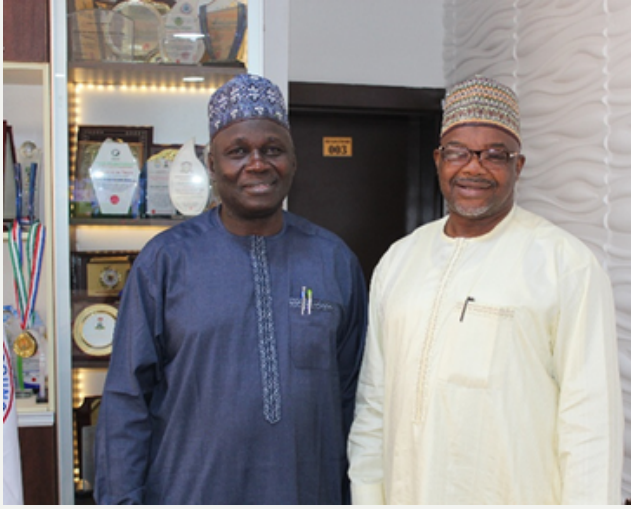
Routine Inspection — KPP CWC, Kano State

The Inspection, Monitoring and Quality Assurance Department carried out an extensive routine inspection of the Kanawa Pharmaceutical Partners Coordinated Wholesale Centre (CWC), Dangwauro, Kano State, from 20 – 24 April 2026.

The exercise was aimed at verifying compliance of the wholesale pharmaceutical premises with PCN standards on licensing, storage, documentation, and Good Distribution Practice (GDP). The inspection reinforces PCN's mandate to regulate personnel, practice, and premises in the interest of public health. It further supports ongoing efforts to prevent the circulation of substandard and illicit medicines within Kano State. Findings from the inspection will guide further regulatory actions to promote professionalism, accountability, and safety across the pharmaceutical supply chain.



Month under review



COURTESY VISIT — REGISTRAR, NMCN

The Registrar of the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria (NMCN), Alhaji Ndagi Al-Hassan, paid a courtesy visit to the Registrar/CEO of the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria (PCN), Pharm. Ibrahim Babashehu Ahmed, at the PCN Head Office, Abuja, on 1 April 2026. The visit underscores the spirit of inter-regulatory collaboration among Nigeria's health professional councils in pursuit of shared healthcare goals.

PHARMA WEST AFRICA CONFERENCE — LAGOS STATE

The Pharmacy Council of Nigeria (PCN) participated in the annual Pharma West Africa Conference, held in Lagos State from 14 – 16 April 2026.

The conference served as a platform for industry leaders to discuss the future of pharmaceutical manufacturing, distribution, and supply chain management within the West African region. The PCN delegation, led by the Registrar/CEO, Pharm. Ibrahim Babashehu Ahmed, engaged actively with fellow delegates and key stakeholders, reaffirming the Council's commitment to ensuring that regulatory standards remain at the forefront of healthcare innovation.

INAUGURATION OF THE PCN PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (PMS) CORE TEAM

On the 23rd of April 2026, Champions, and Departmental/Units Focal Persons were inaugurated as members of the PCN performance management core team.



Month under review

38TH AGM AND SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM OF WAPCP

The PCN participated in the 38th Annual General Meeting and Scientific Symposium of the West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacists (WAPCP), held at the Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal, from 20 – 24 April 2026. The conference was themed "Pharmaceutical Industry and Health Sovereignty: Reviving Local Production."

New Fellows of the West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacists

A highlight of the conference was the induction of seven (7) members of PCN staff as Fellows of the West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacists (WAPCP), conferred with the prestigious post-nominal title FPCPharm. The Pharmacy Council of Nigeria heartily congratulates the following inductees on this outstanding professional achievement:

- 1.Pharm. Zainab Ameenu Suleiman, FPCPharm
- 2.Pharm. Nenlep Bakwa, FPCPharm
- 3.Pharm. Ogochukwu Okechukwu, FPCPharm
- 4.Pharm. Sa'adatu Santuraki, FPCPharm
- 5.Pharm. Lanaan Dadoen, FPCPharm
- 6.Pharm. Aisha Aliyu Kalgo, FPCPharm
- 7.Pharm. Zainab Idris Muti, FPCPharm





Month under review

LAUNCH OF THE ELECTRONIC PHARMACY REGULATIONS, 2026

The Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Prof. Muhammad Ali Pate, CON, officially launched the Electronic Pharmacy (E-Pharmacy) Regulations, 2026 — a comprehensive legal framework designed to regulate the fast-growing digital pharmaceutical sector in Nigeria. The launch took place on 10 April 2026 at the Conference Room of the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (FMoH&SW), Federal Secretariat Complex, Abuja.

The E-Pharmacy Regulations, 2026 provide a wide-ranging framework governing all aspects of digital pharmacy operations in Nigeria. Specifically, the Regulations establish a comprehensive legal and technical framework covering: registration and licensing of e-pharmacy operators and platforms; prescription management, including the filling of e-prescriptions from telemedicine or telehealthcare services; medicines supply, distribution, and quality assurance, ensuring products meet high standards of quality, safety, and authenticity; data privacy and security protections for patients; monitoring and compliance mechanisms; and consumer protection, including penalties for defaulters.

The Regulations apply to all stakeholders within the e-pharmacy ecosystem — operators, licensed pharmacists, healthcare providers, regulators, and consumers alike. A key feature of the framework is the establishment of the National Electronic Pharmacy Platform (NEPP), which will serve as the central nodal platform for facilitating, transacting, and monitoring electronic pharmacy services across Nigeria.

The Regulations build upon the National Electronic Pharmacy Policy and Strategic Implementation Plan (NEPPSIP), launched in December 2025 by the Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare, which had already identified the need for a robust regulatory backbone and infrastructure to govern e-pharmacy activities.

Month under review

The launch event was attended by a broad cross-section of government, regulatory, technology, and development partner stakeholders. Among those present or represented were: National Coordinator, Presidential Initiative on Unlocking the Healthcare Value Chain (PVAC); World Health Organisation (WHO); World Bank; Director, Food and Drug Services, FMOH&SW; Director, Hospital Services, FMOH&SW; Commissioner of Police, Interpol; President, Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria (PSN); National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC); National Institute for Pharmaceutical Research and Development (NIPRD); Registrar, Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN); Registrar, Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria (NMCN); Managing Director, Society for Family Health; PSN Foundation; Digital Health Interoperability Network (DHIN); Director, Hospital Services, FMOH&SW; National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA); Medipool; Society for Telemedicine and Family e-Health in Nigeria; Management of the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria (PCN).

The Electronic Pharmacy Regulations, 2026 is available on the PCN website at www.pcn.gov.ng.



From L-R: Pharm. Ayuba Tanko, FPSN, President, Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria (PSN); Pharm. Ijeoma Nwankwo, PSN Foundation; Pharm. Ibrahim Babashehu Ahmed, FPSN, Registrar/CEO, Pharmacy Council of Nigeria (PCN); Prof. Muhammad Ali Pate, CON, Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (FMOH&SW); Dr Abiola S. Adegoke, mni, Director, Hospital Services, FMOH&SW; Mrs. Olufowobi-Yusuf Adeola, mni, Director, Food and Drug Services, FMOH&SW; Dr. Abdu Mukhtar, National Coordinator, Presidential Initiative for Unlocking the Healthcare Value Chain (PVAC), holding copies of the Electronic Pharmacy Regulations 2026 at the launch event held at the FMOH&SW on 10 April 2026.

Month under review

NEWS FLASH!!!

Renewal of Appointment of Pharm. Ibrahim Babashehu Ahmed, FPSN, as Registrar/CEO of the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria for a Second Tenure

It is with great pride that the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria (PCN) announces the renewal of appointment of our Registrar/CEO, Pharm. Ibrahim Babashehu Ahmed, FPSN, for a second tenure of four (4) years, spanning June 2026 to June 2030. The announcement was made by the Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Prof. Muhammad Ali Pate, CON, at the launch of the Electronic Pharmacy (E-Pharmacy) Regulations, 2026, held on 10 April 2026 at the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Abuja.

The first tenure of Pharm. Ibrahim Babashehu Ahmed has been marked by landmark achievements, bold innovations, and significant breakthroughs in the pharmaceutical regulatory space. Through exemplary leadership, strategic vision, and effective collaboration with stakeholders across government, the healthcare sector, and the international community, he has repositioned the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria as a forward-looking, results-driven regulatory authority.

The PCN extends its sincere gratitude to the Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare for this well-deserved recognition and for the confidence reposed in the Registrar/CEO. The Management and Staff of the Council congratulate Pharm. Ahmed on this renewed mandate and pledge their continued dedication and support as the Council builds upon the achievements of the first tenure in pursuit of an even more impactful second term.



CLOSING WORDS FROM THE REGISTRAR

The month of April 2026 has been a period of significant milestones and strategic advancements for the Pharmacy Council of Nigeria. From the landmark launch of the Electronic Pharmacy Regulations, 2026, to the rigorous enforcement exercises in Kaduna and Kano States, the Council remains steadfast in its mandate to regulate and control pharmacy practice in all its aspects and ramifications.

The Council is immensely proud of its staff members who were inducted as Fellows of the West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacists in Dakar, Senegal; their achievement reflects the culture of excellence and continuous professional growth that we foster within the Registry.

As we transit into the month of May, the Council will continue to prioritise inter-regulatory collaboration, innovation, and the strengthening of pharmaceutical supply chains to ensure the delivery of safe and effective pharmaceutical services to all Nigerians.

I wish to express my profound gratitude to the Management and staff for their diligence, and to all stakeholders for their continued support in our quest to professionalise the pharmaceutical sector.

Happy New Month!



SIGNED

PHARM IBRAHIM BABASHEHU AHMED, *FPSN, FPCPHARM, FNAPHARM, FCAI, IION*
REGISTRAR/CEO
PHARMACY COUNCIL OF NIGERIA (PCN)

